

**Insurance & Real Estate Committee**  
**FEBRUARY 27, 2014**  
**SB No. 192**  
**Kristen Tierney**

Thank you Co-Chairs Senator Joseph J. Crisco and Representative Robert W. Megna for the opportunity to submit testimony before you today.

My name is Kristen Tierney; I'm a lifelong caregiver of a non-custodial family member who lives with mental illness.

I'm writing today to ask your support of SB No. 192 AN ACT CONCERNING THE QUALIFICATIONS OF CLINICAL PEERS FOR ADVERSE DETERMINATION REVIEWS.

SB No. 192 enhances consumer protections for people facing mental health/substance abuse adverse determination reviews by adding a requirement that clinical peers who review these cases have unrestricted licenses and a medical or doctoral degree in the respective field they are reviewing.

This bill also ensures consumer protection during the general utilization review process by requiring this to be done by a qualified licensed MD or PhD (non-restricted license), who holds appropriate national board certification including at the subspecialty level where available, or actively practices and typically manages the medical condition under review. or provides the procedure or treatment under review.

Thank you again for your thoughtful consideration of this bill and its passage.